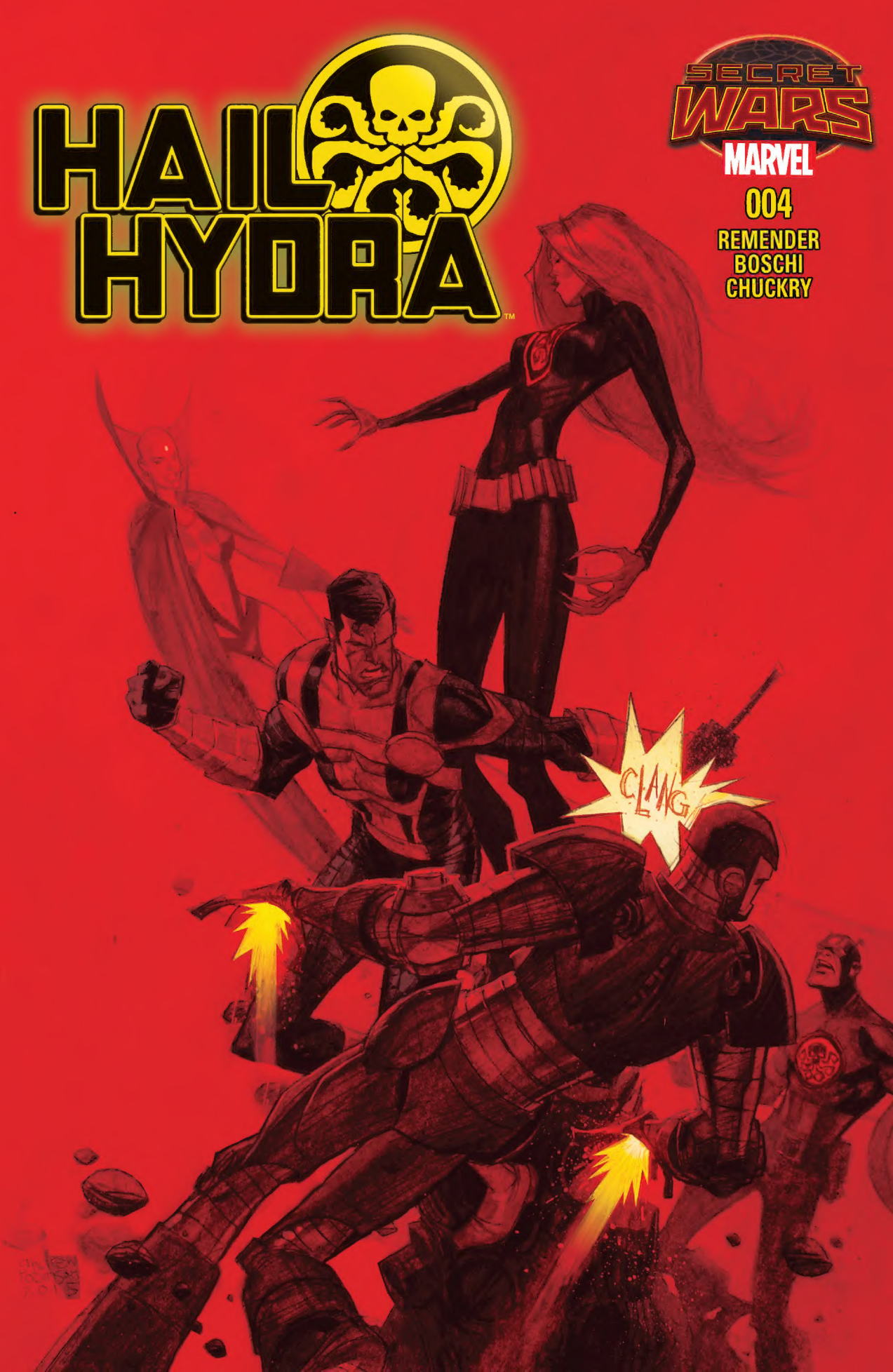
HAIL HYDRA

SECRET WARS

MARVEL

004

REMENDER
BOSCHI
CHUCKRY



SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS…IS **BATTLEWORLD:** A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF!

•

IAN ROGERS IS **NOMAD:** BIOLOGICAL SON OF ARNIM ZOLA, ADOPTED SON OF STEVE ROGERS AND SHARON CARTER, AND PARTNER TO SAM WILSON, THE NEW CAPTAIN AMERICA.

NOMAD PASSED THROUGH THE INFINITE ELEVATOR AND EMERGED IN A NIGHTMARE VERSION OF NEW YORK CITY RULED BY HYDRA AND DEFENDED BY LEOPOLD ZOLA, THE MAN NOMAD WAS MEANT TO BECOME!

NOMAD ESCAPED THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE MOVEMENT LED BY STEVE ROGERS--ALONG WITH STEVE'S DAUGHTER, ELLIE. TOGETHER, THEY DECIDED TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE LEADER OF THE EMPIRE, ARNIM ZOLA.

USING A DEVICE CREATED BY TONY STARK, THEY TRAPPED ZOLA IN THE BODY OF STEVE ROGERS--BUT JUST WHEN THEY THOUGHT THEY'D WON, ELLIE WAS CORRUPTED BY A SYMBIOTE AND NOMAD WAS AMBUSHED BY CAPTAIN HYDRA AND HIS TEAM OF AVENGERS!

HAIL HYDRA

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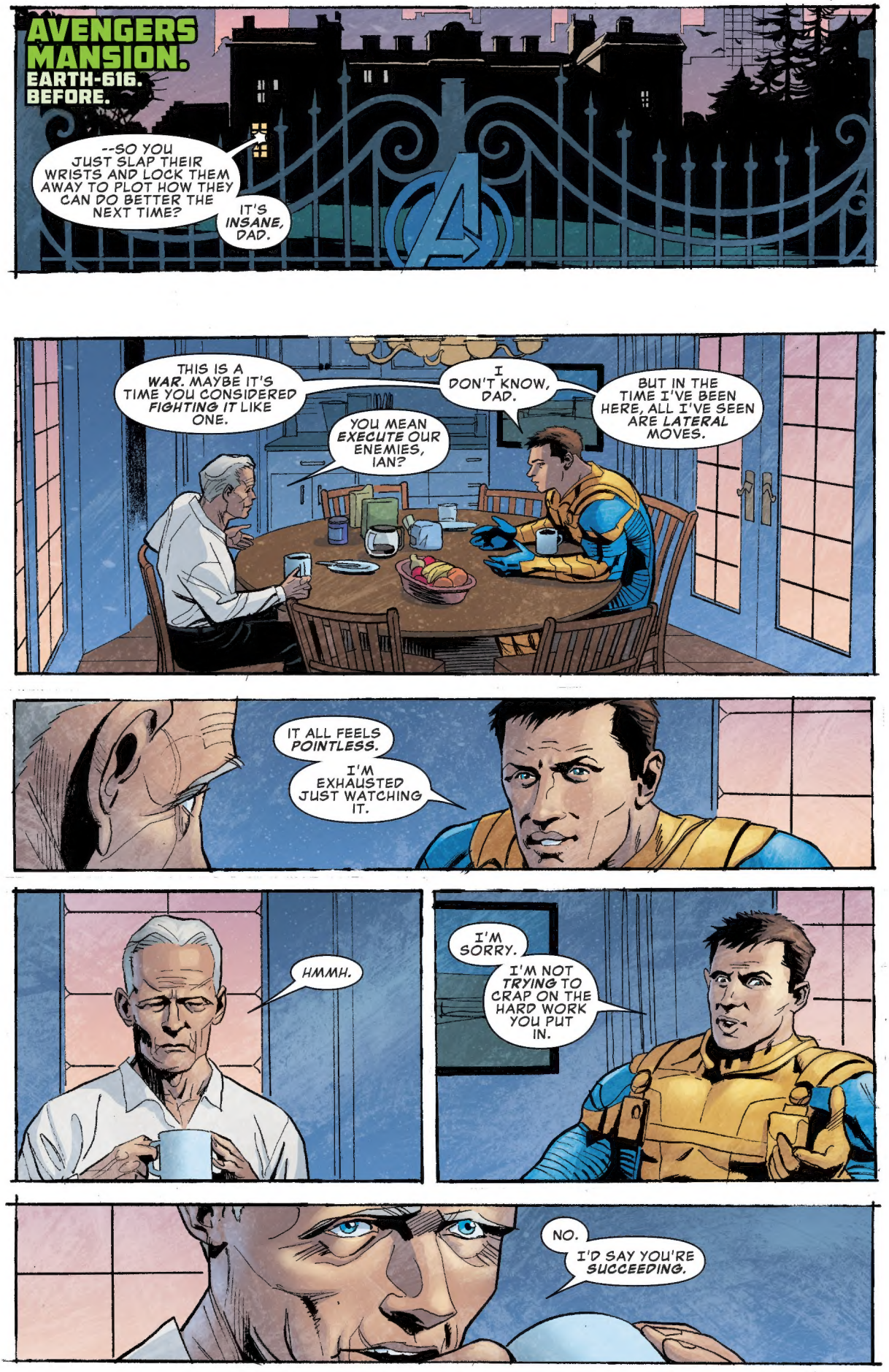

AVENGERS MANSION.
EARTH-616.
BEFORE.
--SO YOU JUST SLAP THEIR WRISTS AND LOCK THEM AWAY TO PLOT HOW THEY CAN DO BETTER THE NEXT TIME?
IT'S INSANE, DAD.
THIS IS A WAR. MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU CONSIDERED FIGHTING IT LIKE ONE.
YOU MEAN EXECUTE OUR ENEMIES, IAN?
I DON'T KNOW, DAD.
BUT IN THE TIME I'VE BEEN HERE, ALL I'VE SEEN ARE LATERAL MOVES.
IT ALL FEELS POINTLESS.
I'M EXHAUSTED JUST WATCHING IT.
HMMH.
I'M SORRY.
I'M NOT TRYING TO CRAP ON THE HARD WORK YOU PUT IN.
NO.
I'D SAY YOU'RE SUCCEEDING.

SOME UPHILL BATTLES AREN'T WORTH THE CLIMB.
AT SOME POINT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THE BAD GUYS *WON* AND CHANGE YOUR TACTICS.
AND WHAT?
RUN AWAY?
FROM A SOUL-CRUSHING FIGHT YOU HAVE *NO HOPE* OF WINNING.
WOULD QUITTING BE *SO* BAD?
YOUR LIFE IS JUST A POINTLESS BALLET OF PUNCHING, POLITICKING AND PIETY.
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT--
--BUT IT'S AWFUL *EASY* TO CRITICIZE. SO HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO BETTER, IAN?
I-I'M SORRY, DAD. THAT SOUNDED WAY WORSE THAN I MEANT IT.
MAYBE I'M WRONG.
OR MAYBE I'M JUST DIFFERENT THAN YOU.
MAYBE I DON'T BELONG IN *THIS* FIGHT.
MAYBE I BELONG BACK FIGHTING THE WAR IN DIMENSION Z.
I LOVE YOU AND WANT YOU TO FIND YOUR HAPPINESS.
I KNOW YOU'LL DO WHAT YOUR HEART FEELS IS *RIGHT*.
BE IT HERE OR IN ANOTHER DIMENSION...

"...IT'S HARD TO FIND WHERE WE BELONG, SON."
BATTLEWORLD.
HYDRA DOMAIN.
NOW.
YOU'VE LOST.
IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.
YOU'VE ENDURED ENOUGH.
YOU'RE READY TO QUIT.
I DON'T CARE WHERE YOU'RE FROM OR WHAT YOUR EXPERIENCES ARE.
YOU AND I ARE THE SAME PERSON, NOMAD, AND I KNOW THE PRAGMATISM THAT BEATS WITHIN YOUR HEART.
TAKE MY HAND.
EVERYBODY GETS TO WIN.
I DON'T NEED TO WIN, LEOPOLD--
--SO LONG AS YOU LOSE.
STRUCKER-- I NEED THE SECRETS INSIDE THAT ARMOR!
AND YOU SHALL HAVE THEM.

WELL, THAT WAS DUMB.
DEFIANCE FOR ITS OWN SAKE, I SUPPOSE.
CAN'T LET THAT CLAN OF DIRTBAGS GET THEIR HANDS ON THE HEALING TECHNOLOGY IN MY ARMOR.
CAN'T LIVE TO WATCH--
GRAH--!
SUICIDE.
SO YOU WERE RAISED BY THE COWARD ROGERS.
WHACK
I'D RATHER DIE THAN SEE ANY OF MY POWERS HELP YOU, FASCIST!
I DIDN'T GIVE UP, DAD.
THERE WAS JUST NO OTHER WAY TO FIGHT BACK.

CHOOF
NO--YOU'RE NOT LEAVING ME ALONE WITH THIS MESS.
ELLIE?! YOU GAINED CONTROL OVER THE SYMBIOTE?
THANK MOM AND DAD'S BAKED-IN TENACITY.
STILL--
"--I HAVE EXACTLY NO IDEA WHAT I'M DOING."
BROCK! YOU ASSURED ME IF SHE WAS INFECTED WITH THE SYMBIOTE YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTROL HER!
RELAX, LEOPOLD--
"--SssSHE CAN'T FIGHT USSS FOREVER."
THEY'RE GAINING ON US, ELLIE. WE NEED A PLAN.
I'LL FIND US A BOTTLENECK, AND THEN WE TURN AND FIGHT.
NO. THIS ISN'T A FIGHT WE CAN WIN.
WE DO OUR BEST OR WE DIE.
ALSO ON THE TABLE.
MAYBE WE DO OUR BEST AND WE DIE.

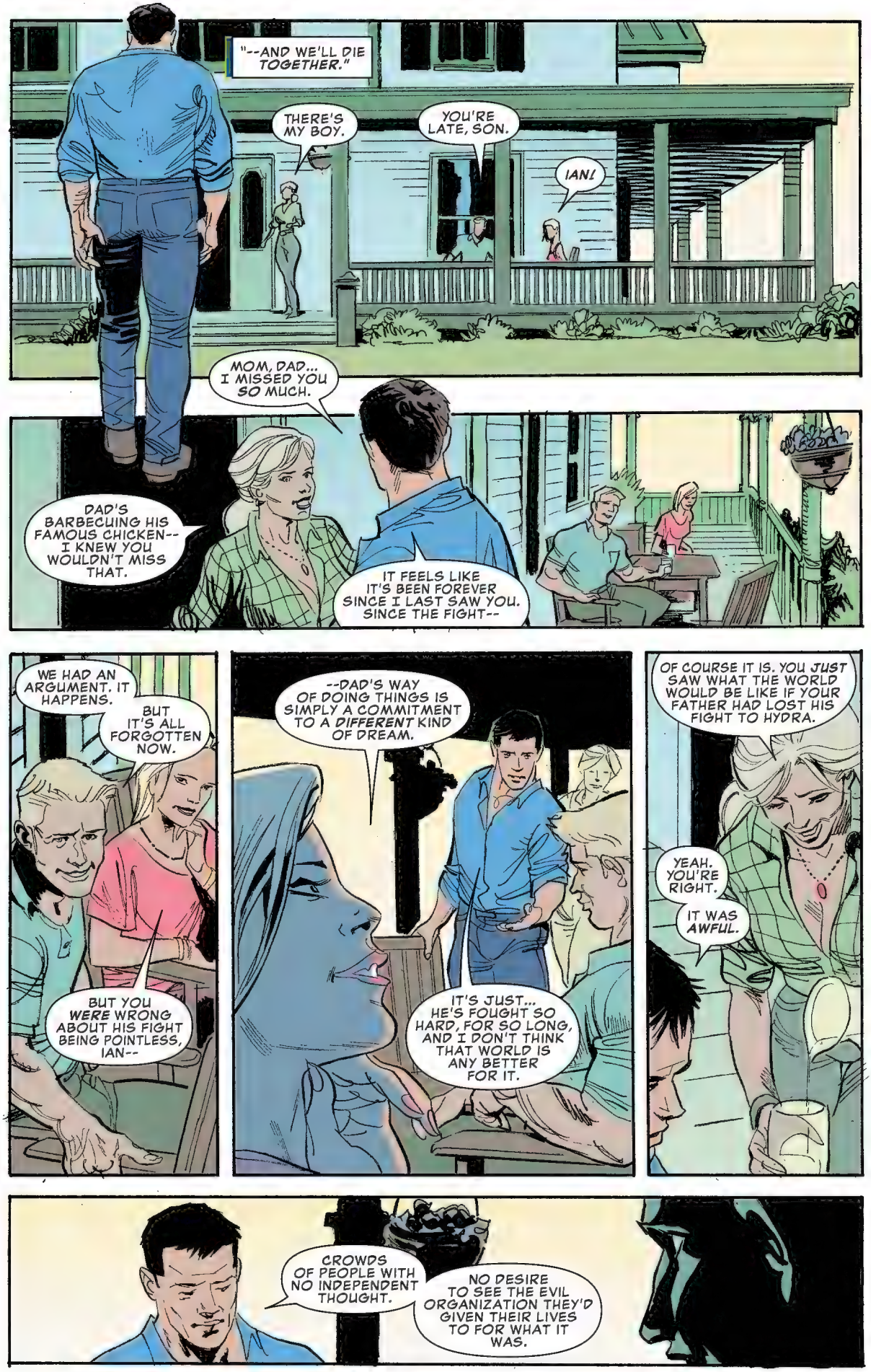
TWP
THERE'S A BETTER OPTION.
I'M ALL EARS.
NO MORE FIGHTING--WE JUST LEAVE.
I CAME HERE THROUGH A DOORWAY CALLED THE INFINITE ELEVATOR.
WE CAN USE IT TO GO BACK TO MY WORLD AND--
AND JUST GIVE UP?
TWP
THERE'S NOTHING HERE WE WANT.
AND THERE'S NO POINT EVEN IF THERE WERE. YOU SAW THOSE CROWDS--THESE PEOPLE LOVE HYDRA.
BUT IN MY WORLD, STEVE ROGERS WON THE WAR. WE CAN LIVE FREE--
WHAT THE HELL--?!
MINDBUBBLES! I'VE READ ABOUT THEM IN DAD'S FILES! DON'T LET THEM TOUCH YOU!
HYDRA

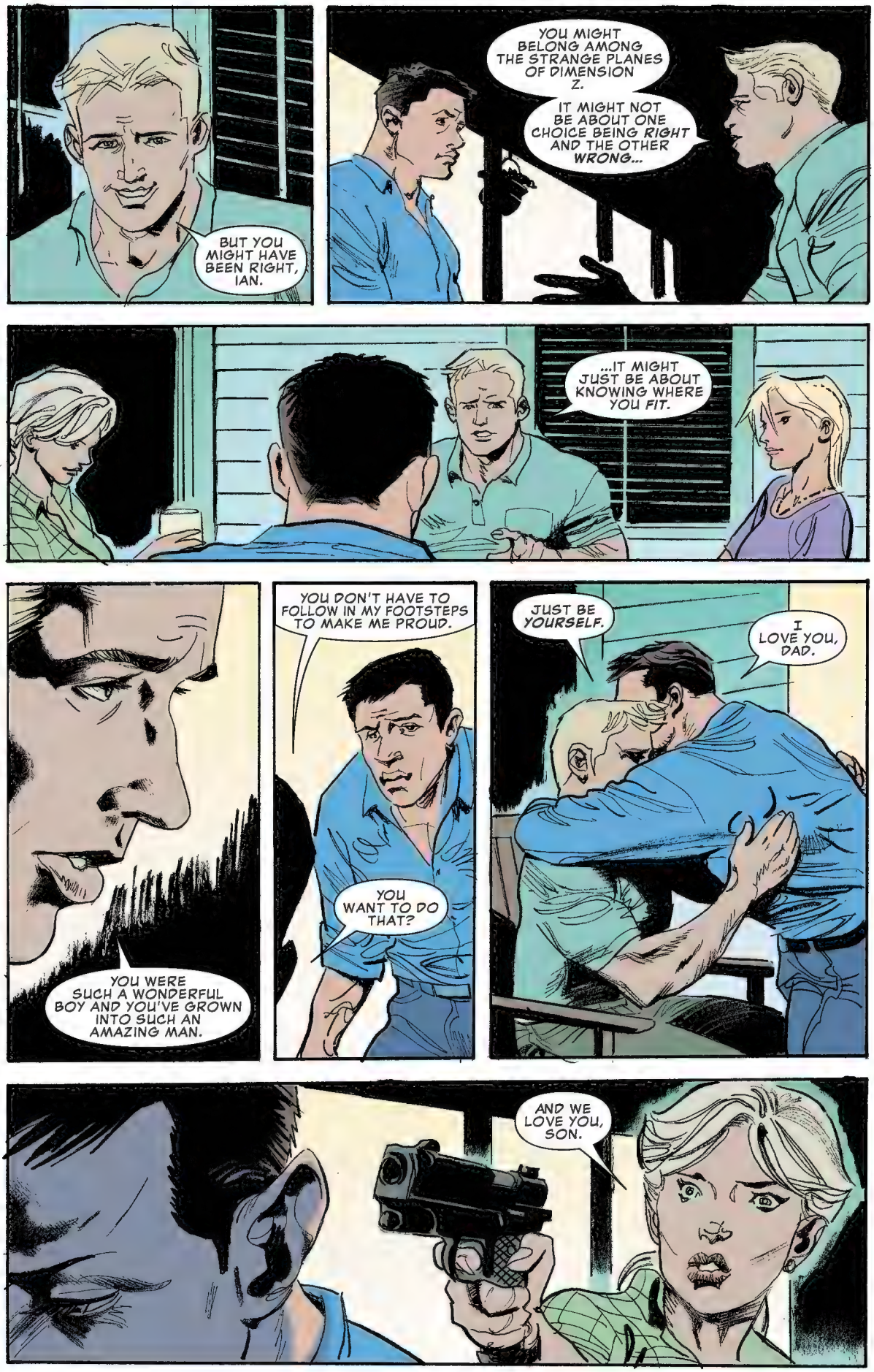
THEY'RE COMING TOO FAST!
WHOA--!
KROOOM
OOF--!
WE OFFERED YOU A PLACE IN HYDRA--
--YET YOU CHOOSE TO DIE ALONE IN FAILURE?
WHUNK
CLEAR THE SHOT, IRON NAIL--!
IMBECILE!
GRAGH--!
GNAK
YOU CLOWNS DON'T REALLY DO TEAMWORK, DO YOU?
YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BEAT ME BY YOURSELF?
I DON'T NEED TO BEAT YOU ALONE, DUMB CHILD--
GNAAT

--THAT'S WHY WE *HEROES* GANG UP.

KWUNGG
THE DRAIN SEES YOUR SOUL LAID BARE--
--TRAPPED BETWEEN THE MAN WHO RAISED YOU AND THE FATHER WHO GAVE YOU LIFE!
YOU WILL NEVER BE WHAT HE WANTS IN A SON.
YOU WILL DIE.
HE WILL FORGET YOU.
BUT STEVE ROGERS ALWAYS KNEW THAT, AT YOUR CORE, YOU ARE A ZOLA!
JOIN YOUR SISTER AND ACCEPT OUR MERCY--

DAD AND I MIGHT NOT SEE EYE-TO-EYE ON EVERYTHING--
WHACK
FWAK
--BUT HE'D NEVER FORGET ME.
EVEN AFTER YOU FAILED TO PROTECT ELLIE?
I HAVE SEEN WHAT FUTURE AWAITS THE TWO OF YOU.
THE MINDBUBBLE WILL GIVE HER EVERYTHING SHE EVER DREAMED OF--
--USING WHAT SHE LOVES MOST TO KILL HER.
THEN I'LL BE THERE WITH HER--
WUNG


"--AND WE'LL DIE TOGETHER."
THERE'S MY BOY.
YOU'RE LATE, SON.
IAN!
MOM, DAD... I MISSED YOU SO MUCH.
DAD'S BARBECUING HIS FAMOUS CHICKEN-- I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T MISS THAT.
IT FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN FOREVER SINCE I LAST SAW YOU. SINCE THE FIGHT--
WE HAD AN ARGUMENT. IT HAPPENS.
BUT IT'S ALL FORGOTTEN NOW.
BUT YOU WERE WRONG ABOUT HIS FIGHT BEING POINTLESS, IAN--
--DAD'S WAY OF DOING THINGS IS SIMPLY A COMMITMENT TO A DIFFERENT KIND OF DREAM.
IT'S JUST... HE'S FOUGHT SO HARD, FOR SO LONG, AND I DON'T THINK THAT WORLD IS ANY BETTER FOR IT.
OF COURSE IT IS. YOU JUST SAW WHAT THE WORLD WOULD BE LIKE IF YOUR FATHER HAD LOST HIS FIGHT TO HYDRA.
YEAH. YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT WAS AWFUL.
CROWDS OF PEOPLE WITH NO INDEPENDENT THOUGHT.
NO DESIRE TO SEE THE EVIL ORGANIZATION THEY'D GIVEN THEIR LIVES TO FOR WHAT IT WAS.


BUT YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN RIGHT, IAN.
YOU MIGHT BELONG AMONG THE STRANGE PLANES OF DIMENSION Z.
IT MIGHT NOT BE ABOUT ONE CHOICE BEING RIGHT AND THE OTHER WRONG...
...IT MIGHT JUST BE ABOUT KNOWING WHERE YOU FIT.
YOU WERE SUCH A WONDERFUL BOY AND YOU'VE GROWN INTO SUCH AN AMAZING MAN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FOLLOW IN MY FOOTSTEPS TO MAKE ME PROUD.
YOU WANT TO DO THAT?
JUST BE YOURSELF.
I LOVE YOU, DAD.
AND WE LOVE YOU, SON.

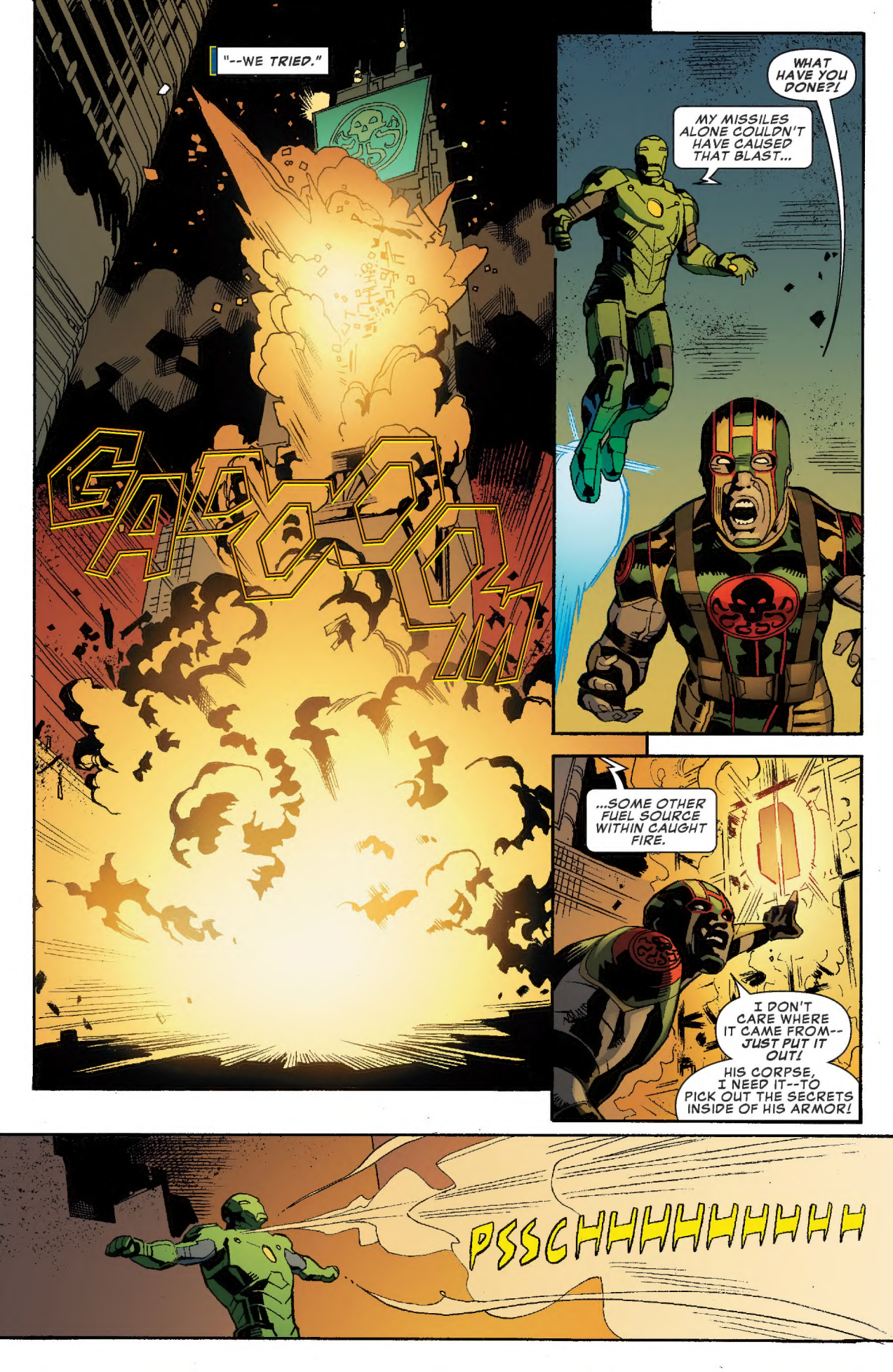
BLAM
I'M SORRY, ELLIE.
NO--
BLAM
THIS IS THE COWARD'S WAY--!
YOU WANT TO GO BACK OUT THERE, KNOW THIS--

"--NO ONE LEAVES HYDRA HAPPY!"
BOOM!
MOM--!
JUST A MINDBUBBLE-- TRAPS YOUR MIND IN ANOTHER REALITY AND KILLS YOU WITH YOUR GREATEST DESIRE.
ONLY WAY OUT IS TO KILL YOURSELF FIRST.
C'MON, ELLIE--
SPLAK KA
I'M TAKING YOU TO THE HOME YOU DESERVE.

THERE! THE INFINITE ELEVATOR!
WE'RE ALMOST--
IAN!
KA-TCHOK
OOF--!
BVOOM
ALMOST THERE--!
BA-DOOM

HYDRA NATION
GZAGZATTGZ
TNG
GHA--
FSSCHHH
ELLIE--!
I'VE GOT YOU.
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY.

DZZEET
DZZEET
THUMP
61
616
691
FSSCHHOOOM
FSSCHHOOOM
I'M SORRY, ELLIE.
BUT WE FAILED.
LOOK AT WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED WITH SO MUCH WORKING AGAINST US...THAT'S SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.
NO--


"--WE TRIED."
KABOOM
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
MY MISSILES ALONE COULDN'T HAVE CAUSED THAT BLAST...
...SOME OTHER FUEL SOURCE WITHIN CAUGHT FIRE.
I DON'T CARE WHERE IT CAME FROM--JUST PUT IT OUT!
HIS CORPSE, I NEED IT--TO PICK OUT THE SECRETS INSIDE OF HIS ARMOR!
PSSCHHHHHHHHHH

HE HAS TO BE HERE--SOME REMAINS--!
A SCRAP--
--ANYTHING!
NOTHING.
"GONE, AS IF THEY NEVER EXISTED."
MARVEL

FUTILITY